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10/727,275	12/03/2003	Gabriel Aaron Cohen	RSW920030245US1	5980
25259	7590	09/18/2008		
IBM CORPORATION 3039 CORNWALLIS RD. DEPT. T81 / B503, PO BOX 12195 RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC 27709			EXAMINER AUGUSTINE, NICHOLAS	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2179	
			NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			09/18/2008	ELECTRONIC

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

RSWIPLAW@us.ibm.com

# Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/727,275

**Applicant(s)**

COHEN ET AL.

**Examiner**

NICHOLAS AUGUSTINE

**Art Unit**

2179

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 June 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-946)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/ICE)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

- A. This action is in response to the following communications: Request for Continued Examination filed 6/23/2008.
- B. Claims 1-21 remains pending.
- C. Claims rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 have been withdrawn due to amendment.
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**Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114**

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 06/23/2008 has been entered.
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***Claim Objections***

2. Claim 15 is objected to because of the following informalities: the status of claim 15 is incorrect; it should be labeled "currently amended". Appropriate correction is required.

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102**

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless:

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-6 and 15-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cascio et al (US Pub 2002/0091818), hereinafter "Cascio".

As claim 1, Cascio teaches a computer-readable medium whose contents cause a computer system (fig. 1, label 30; par [0044]) to recognize a character based user interface having a plurality of host component types and to transform the character based user interface to a web enabled user interface (Abstract; par [0026]; par [0047]; par [0052]; par [0075]), the computer system having instructions to perform the steps of (par [0044]; par [0047]): code for scanning the character based user interface by a plurality of agents (par [0047]; fig. 7; par [0055]; par [0075], that the program will scan for textural patterns); code in each agent for determining (par [0025]; par [0072], that by comparing the data against rules), the existence of a different host component type unique to the agent (par [0053] - [0057], that by comparing the data against one or more rules, each rule is related to a process which is related to an agent); defining a match region for each host component type found to exist by an agent in the character based

user interface (par [0025]); determining whether two or more match regions overlap (fig. 6; par [0058]; par [0072]-[0073]; par [0076]-[0077], that by comparing complex data components (windows or objects) against rules will determine if regions/areas overlap); and rendering match regions associated with each agent to compose the web enabled user interface (Abstract; par [0025]-[0026]; par [0047]; par [0052]; par [0075]).

As claim 2, Cascio further teaches: rendering each match region as a aggregated widget, the widgets composing a formatted output page (Abstract; par [0047]).

As claim 3, Cascio further teaches comprising a step before the rendering step, the step comprising: resolving a conflict between two or more match regions which overlap based on a policy to determine which agent associated with a match region controls the overlap region (par [0052]; par [0072]-[0073]; par [0076]-[0077]), that by comparing complex data against the rules and invoking an application designated by the rule).

As claim 4, Cascio further teaches the policy comprises the steps of: assigning a predetermined priority to each agent (fig. 6; par [0065]; par [0072]-[0073], that by having the ability to edit and assigning the order (priority) of the components in the rules based in the order they are checked); comparing the predetermined priority of the two or more conflicting agents (par [0072]- [0073], that by comparing the complex data against rules will also determine the order (priority) of the components); and selecting the agent with the highest predetermined priority to control the overlapping

region (par [0052], that by invoking an application designated by the rule will assume).

As claim 5, Cascio further teaches the policy comprises the steps of: comparing the size of the conflicting regions which overlap (fig. 9, labels 920, 930; par [0062]-[0064] par [0072]-[0073], that by comparing the complex data against rules); and selecting the agent having the smaller size region to control the overlapped region (par [0052]; par [0077], that by invoking an application designated by the rule to extract and display the area/region in a new format).

As claim 6, Cascio further teaches the policy comprises the steps of:  
assigning a dynamic priority to each conflicting region having a common overlapping region (fig. 6; par [0065]; par [0072]-[0073], that by having the ability to edit and assigning an attribute (priority). in the rules), the dynamic priority based on the projected amount of time expended to render each conflicting region (fig. 6; par [0072]-[0073], that by assigning the order of the components in the rules based in the order they are checked); and selecting the agent controlling the conflicting region having the highest priority to retain control over the overlapping region (fig. 6; par [0052]; par [0072]-[0073], that by checking components based on the rules will determent when the control is turned over to a component).

As claim 7, Cascio further teaches the conflicting agents negotiate whether to relinquish control of at least the overlap region (fig. 6; par [0052]; par [0072]-[0073], that by

checking components based on the rules will determine when the control is turned over to a component).

As claim 15, Cascio teaches a method (par [0044]) for recognizing a character based user interface having a plurality of host component types and transforming the character based user interface to a web enabled user interface (Abstract; par [0026]; par [0047]; par [0052]; par [0075]), the method comprising: scanning the character based user interface by a plurality of agents (par [0047]; fig. 7; par [0055]; par [0075], that the program will scan for textural patterns); determining which host component types exist in the character based user interface (par [0072]-[0073]; par [0076]-[0077], that by comparing complex data components (windows or objects) against rules will determine which host components are available), each agent determining the existence of a different host component type from the other agents (par [0072]-[0073]; par [0076]-[0077], that by comparing complex data components (windows or objects) against rules will determine which host components are available); defining a match region for each host component type found to exist by an agent in the character based user interface (par [0025]; par [0072]-[0073], that by comparing complex data against the rules); determining whether two or more match regions overlap (fig. 6; par [0058]; par [0072]-[0073]; par [0076]-[0077], that by comparing complex data components (windows or objects) against rules will determine if regions/areas overlap); and rendering match regions associated with each agent to compose the web enabled user interface

(Abstract; par [0025]; par [0026]; par [0047]; par [0052]; par [0075]).

As claim 16 Cascio further teaches: rendering each match region as a widget, the widgets composing a formatted output page (Abstract; par [0047]).

As claim 17 Cascio further teaches a Step before the rendering step, the step comprising: resolving a conflict between two or more match regions which overlap based on a policy to determine which agent associated with a match region controls the overlap region (par [0052]; par [0072]-[0073]), that by comparing against rules and invoking an application designated by the rule)

As claim 18, Cascio further teaches the policy comprises the steps of: assigning a predetermined priority to each agent; comparing the predetermined priority of the two or more conflicting agents (fig. 6; par [0058]; par [0072]-[0073]; par [0076]-[0077], that by comparing complex data components (windows or objects) against rules in a prioritized manor); and selecting the agent with the highest predetermined priority to control the overlapping region (par [0052], that by invoking an application designated by the rule will assume control).

As claim 19, Cascio further teaches:  
comparing the size of the conflicting regions which overlap (fig. 9, labels 920, 930; par [0062]-[0064] par [0072]-[0073], that by comparing complex data against the rules); and

selecting the agent having the smaller size region to control the overlapped region (par [0052], that by invoking an application designated by the rule).

As claim 20, Cascio further teaches the policy comprises the steps of: assigning a dynamic priority to each conflicting region having a common overlapping region (fig. 6; par [0065]; par [0072]-[0073], that by having the ability to edit and assigning attribute (time) in the rules), the dynamic priority based on the projected amount of time expended to render each conflicting region (fig. 6; par [0072]-[0073], that by assigning the order of the components in the rules based in the order they are checked); ' and selecting the agent controlling the conflicting region having the highest priority to retain control over the overlapping region (fig. 6; par [0052]; par [0072]-[0073], that by checking components based on the rules will determent when the control is turned over to a component).

As claim 21, Cascio further teaches the conflicting agents negotiate whether to relinquish control of at least the overlap region (fig. 6; par [0052]; par [0072]-[0073], that by checking components based on the rules will determent when the control is turned over to a component).

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103**

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 8-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cascio in view of DaCosta et al. (US Pub 2002/0120725), hereinafter "DaCosta".

As claim 8, Cascio teaches a computer system (fig. 1, label 30; par [0044]) for recognizing a character based user interface having a plurality of host component types and transforming the character based user interface to a web enabled user interface (Abstract; par [0026]; par [0047]; par [0052]; par [0075]), comprising: a memory (fig. 1, label 28; par [0038]; line 18) comprising a plurality of agent objects to scan the character based user interface (par [0047]; fig. 7; par [0055]; par [0075], that the program will scan for textural patterns), each agent object determining the existence of a different host component type from the other agents (par [0025]; par [0072], that by comparing the data against rules), each agent object defining a match region for each host component type found to exist in the character based user interface (par [0025]),

each agent object rendering its associated match region to compose the web enabled user interface (Abstract; par [0025]; par [0026]; par [0047]; par [0052]; par [0075]); and a processor for running the plurality of agent objects (fig. 1, label 12; par [0038], line 6). Cascio does not teach the computer system having an anti-virus program. However, DaCosta teaches the computer system having an anti-virus program (par [0008]-[0009], that it is inherent that there is anti-virus program in the computer system to able to be updated). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art the time the invention to modify Cascio by teaching the computer system having an anti-virus program as taught by DaCosta in order to provide a secured software environment in the computer system and protecting against current threats (e.g., viruses).

As claim 9, Cascio further teaches each agent renders each match region as a widget, the aggregated widgets composing a formatted output page (Abstract; par [0047]).

As claim 10, Cascio further teaches: an agent manager for determining whether two or more match regions overlap (fig. 6; par [0044]; par [0072]-[0073], that by comparing complex data against the rules).

As claim 11, "Cascio further teaches two or more agents resolve a conflict between two or more overlapping match regions based on a policy to determine which agent associated with one match region controls the overlap region, the processor running the

policy (par [0052]; par [0044]; par [0072]-[0073]), that by comparing rules and invoking an application designated by the rule and running by processor).

As claim 12, Cascio further teaches the policy executed by the processor comprises: assigning a predetermined priority to each agent (fig. 6; par [0065]; par [0072]-[0073], that by having the ability to edit and assigning the order of the components in the rules based in the order they are checked); comparing the predetermined priority of the two or more conflicting agents (par [0072]-[0073], that by comparing complex data against the rules); and selecting the agent with the highest predetermined priority to control the overlapping region (par [0052], that by invoking an application designated by the rule will assume).

As claim 13, Cascio further teaches the policy executed by the processor comprises: comparing the size of the conflicting region switch overlap (fig. 9, labels 920, 930; par [0062]-[0064] par [0072H0073], that by comparing complex data against the rules); and selecting the agent having the smaller size region to control the overlapped region (par [0052], that by invoking an application designated by the rule).

As claim 14, Cascio further teaches the policy executed by the processor comprises: assigning a dynamic priority to each conflicting region having a common overlapping region (fig. 6; par [0065]; par [0072]-[0073], that by having the ability to edit and assigning attribute (time) in the rules), the dynamic priority based on the projected

amount of time expended to render each conflicting region (fig. 6; par [0072]-[0073], that by assigning the order of the Components in the rules based in the order they are checked); and selecting the agent controlling the conflicting region having the highest priority to retain control over the overlapping region (fig. 6; par [0052]; par [0072]-[0073], that by checking components based on the rules will determent when the control is turned over to a component).

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**(Note :)** It is noted that any citation to specific, pages, columns, lines, or figures in the prior art references and any interpretation of the references should not be considered to be limiting in any way. A reference is relevant for all it contains and may be relied upon for all that it would have reasonably suggested to one having ordinary skill in the art. In re Heck, 699 F.2d 1331, 1332-33, 216 USPQ 1038, 1039 (Fed. Cir. 1983) (quoting In re Lemelson, 397 F.2d 1006,1009, 158 USPQ 275, 277 (CCPA 1968)).

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed 06/23/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

After careful review of the amended claims (given the broadest interpretation) and the remarks provided by the Applicant along with the cited reference(s) the Examiner does not agree with the Applicant for at least the reasons provided below:

A1. Applicant argues that Cascio does not teach a plurality of agents for performing functionality of the system.

R1. Examiner does not agree. The Applicant agrees and states that "...a procedural agent would execute as a single process...", hence an agent is a process. With that in mind the Examiner likes to note paragraphs 53, 60, 73, 75 which describe

different processes for performing different functionality much like an individual agent to perform certain functionality as explained by the Applicant. Cascio gives another scenario of how Cascio has multiple agents performing desired functionality from the system of Cascio. Then again Cascio also provides further evidence of a plurality of agents by explaining the system can be ran in a multi-tiered architecture, which know in the art has a plurality of agents to invoke functionality from the Cascio system ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Multitier\\_architecture](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Multitier_architecture)). In paragraphs 52-57;

“the invention may allow the user to explicitly specify the rule(s) to be applied to a particular data stream... and may then invoke application of a particular rule against the data on the display screen... then creates one or more output documents in a markup language to represent the data that is extracted, according to a matching rule or rules”

Cascio explains that one or more rules can exist in a rules base, therefore more than one agent exist, thus multiple processes. The current claim language does not suggest that the processes are processes all at the same time but one after another, much like one rule is invoked one at a time until all rules that were accessed have been processed.

A2. Applicant argues Cascio does not teach determining whether two or more match regions overlap.

R2. Examiner does not agree, in paragraph 72 Cascio explains that the system detects matched areas of a data stream and does not accumulate repeated data collections from the data stream, in such the final output is a collection of non-repeated

components. The entire data stream is processed according to matching with rule(s) from the rules base. A comprehensive output is created to extract those rules that match data patterns, windows with overlapping in the data stream are matched and do not keep the same areas with the end goal being to satisfy the rule to have a complete file (all regions collected) such that extraction can then take place. It is explained that the same regions that are matched are not needed and therefor were detected. For example rule 1 finds components A,B,C and rule 2 finds components B,C, D the final output is one of A,B,C,D and not A, B,B,C,C,D, thus a determination of overlap exist within Cascio. Cascio may not use the term "overlap" but the function of overlapping is present to at least paragraph 53-58, 70, 72-75.

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

### ***Inquires***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nicholas Augustine whose telephone number is 571-270-1056. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday: 7:30- 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo can be reached on 571-272-4847. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Nicholas Augustine/  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2179  
September 12, 2008

/Ba Huynh/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2179